

# BOY SMARTS

STRATEGIES  
FOR CLASSROOM SUCCESS



RELEVANT  
REALISTIC  
RESPONSIVE  
EDUCATION

FRIDAY OCTOBER 23 - VANCOUVER

**I**n our rapidly changing and technologically complex society, schools are being asked to educate the most diverse student body in history to higher and higher academic standards. Some students—disproportionately boys—are bored, disconnected, and underachieving.

- **What does research say about the varied learning needs of boys ?**
- **How can we avoid the binary gender trap and respect the needs of all students?**
- **To what degree are boys visual learners struggling in auditory environments ?**
- **How can classroom learning reflect emerging digital technologies ?**
- **What are best practices for reaching and teaching the diverse needs of boys ?**
- **How can we power up our classrooms in ways that will empower all children ?**

**B**ARRY MACDONALD is a teacher, consultant and counsellor who is a champion for strong families, strong schools – and boys. A sought-after speaker, he has presented to thousands of educators & parents. He was identified as 1 of 25 *Influential People to Watch* by the *Vancouver Sun*, and is the author of the BC bestselling book, *Boy Smarts–Mentoring Boys for Success at School* and recently published *Boy Smarts Action Study Guide*.



*“MacDonald’s compelling presentation is one of the best I have ever seen. His keynote address at the National Principals’ Conference was balanced, insightful and presented with perspicacity ... and indeed should be heard by every educator and parent.”*

**Dr. Avis Glaze**, Former Ontario Education Commissioner & Senior Advisor to the Minister of Education

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Deeply ingrained in our experience of schooling is that learning in traditional ways provides educational sustenance. But does the teacher-centered classroom necessarily reflect the real world? As we learn to adapt some of the range of new technologies that support and enhance learning beyond the conventional classroom, we uncover fresh opportunities for creative expression and critical thinking, for the integration of learning, and for the development of student talents.

## THE AGENDA...

**8:00 Registration and coffee/tea**

**8:30 Introduction:** What do trends say about educating boys and especially certain sub-groups of boys?

**9:00 The visual bias:** To what degree do boys think in pictures, become overwhelmed with verbal instructions, and how can teaching reflect society's emerging graphic technology to benefit both boys **and** girls?

**9:30 Masculinity today:** Why do many boys say "*School Ain't Cool!*" How can we listen beyond a boy's bravado and veneer of indifference? How can we respond more effectively to harassment and bullying among boys and actively teach healthy masculinities so that learning is safe?

**10:00 Why do many boys believe that *REAL MEN DON'T READ*** and how can we captivate the varying interests and motivations of boys to foster creativity and ingenuity? What are the strengths and drawbacks to video games? To what degree is assessment gender-biased and what can we do about it?

**10:30 Mid morning snack... sandwiches, fresh fruit, and dessert**

**10:50 How can we make school more relevant for boys?** The real gender gap is not in ability but in motivation - not in what girls and boys can do, but in what girls and boys want to do: specifically, in what they want to learn, and how they want to learn it. Project-based integrated learning offers constructive ways for students to acquire the range of skills today's world demands of them. Kids thrive with complex projects that go in a lot of directions and have serious and rigorous content.



**11:30 Communicating with boys:** How can we enhance our communication with boys and assist them to develop relational skills as well as become more socially responsible?

**12:00 Listening to boys' literacy needs:** Barry will interview a *Real Boy* to better understand scholastic motivation.

**1:00 Optimistic action:** How do we get beyond the headlines and hype, and take constructive action that reflects the varied needs of boys in our learning communities - while also respecting the needs of girls? How to use the *Boy Smarts Action Study Guide* to develop your own school-wide plan of action.

**1:15** Recap the **Boy Smarts Strategies** that will make school more realistic, relevant and responsive to the varying needs of boys - and all students!

# .....BOY SMARTS



## STRATEGIES FOR CLASSROOM SUCCESS

### Date

- Friday October 23, 2009 - 8:30 am – 1:30 pm (registration at 8am)

### Where

- Broadway Church Fellowship Hall - 2700 East Broadway, Vancouver  
(at Slokan and East Broadway - enter building off Slokan) Note that venue is walking distance from Renfrew Skytrain Station - 2 blocks.

### Fee

- Includes **TWO** books: *Boy Smarts – Mentoring Boys for Success at School*, and *Boy Smarts Action Study Guide*, arrival coffee/tea, & nutrition break (retail value of \$80.00). **Outstanding Value !**



- |                       |                      |   |            |
|-----------------------|----------------------|---|------------|
| • <b>Earlybird</b>    | - Until September 30 | • <b>individual</b> \$139 + 6.95 GST          | = \$145.95 |
|                       |                      | • <b>group</b> of 4 + people \$109 + 4.36 GST | = \$113.36 |
| • <b>Regular rate</b> | - After September 30 | • <b>individual</b> \$159 + 7.95 GST          | = \$166.95 |
|                       |                      | • <b>group</b> of 4 + people \$129 + 6.45 GST | = \$135.45 |

- Register early - Please note that last year's October 2008 event was sold-out.
- Refunds will not be granted after October 9. Questions? Email [info@mentoringboys.com](mailto:info@mentoringboys.com)

### Register online

-  Pay by credit card on [MentoringBoys.com](http://MentoringBoys.com) and receive immediate confirmation and receipt.

### Register by mail

- Confirmation of mailed registrations will be emailed and receipt will be available on Oct 23rd. Group registrants need to mail their names and payment together as one package at one time (extra names cannot be later added) with an **identified group contact person** who will then be responsible to communicate all correspondence to group members. Group registrations will be returned if no contact is identified. Issue cheque (postdated cheques will be returned) to **Sagepoint Consulting** and mail with tear-off below to:

**Sagepoint Consulting – Boy Smarts**  
Ocean Park PO Box 45053, Surrey, BC V4A 9L1

Name \_\_\_\_\_ School \_\_\_\_\_

Email (registration is confirmed by email only – print clearly) \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ Postal Code \_\_\_\_\_

Group Contact Person (if part of a group registration) \_\_\_\_\_

Check the two that best apply to you **1)** Elem \_\_\_ Sec \_\_\_ **2)** Teacher \_\_\_ Support Staff \_\_\_ Administrator \_\_\_